

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01724 291654Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----024146 291706Z /43

O 291540Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7341
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 1724

EXDIS TREAT AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MOPS, PLO, LE
SUBJECT: JONAH ON UNIFIL MANDATE

REF: STATE 079904

1. JONAH HAS RETURNED TO JERUSALEM. SINCE JONAH'S VIEW ABOUT BODY SEARCH WAS SHARED BY OTHER UN OFFICERS IN BEIRUT AND HE WAS VERY ANTSY ABOUT WHAT HE SAID TO US GETTING BACK TO UNNY, SUGGEST THAT BEST WAY TO APPROACH THIS QUESTION WOULD BE FOR USUN TO RAISE WITH UN SECRETARIAT WHOLE QUESTION OF UNIFIL MANDATE.

2. OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE POSED INCLUDE: (A) ARMAMENT. WHAT IS LEVEL OF ARMAMENT UNIFIL WILL HAVE? IT IS BOOTLESS TO TALK ABOUT UNIFIL CONTROLLING MOVEMENT IF IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO USE HEAVIER ARAMENT THAN IT NOW HAS. THEY WILL BE BADLY OUTGUNNED BY PALESTINIANS IN ANY EVENT, BECAUSE LATTER HAVE ARTILLERY AND ROCKETS. (B) COMBAT ROLE. TALK OF SENSORS ALONG LITANI IMPLIES UNIFIL MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT INFILTRATOR SPOTTED A
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01724 291654Z

KILOMETER AWAY AT 2/00 A.M. IF SO, JUST HOW DO WE SUPPOSE THEY ARE GOING TO DO THAT? SEND OUT A PATROL? ARMED WITH WHAT? IT IS HARD TO VISUALIZE EITHER UNIFIL OR LEBANESE ARMY UNDER-TAKING SORT OF ROUGH WORK IMPLIED BY SUCH A CONCEPT. (C) ERSKINE'S WHEREABOUTS. IF ERSKINE IS GOING TO COMMAND UNIFIL HE OUGHT TO INSTALL HIMSELF IN BEIRUT OR ELSEWHERE IN LEBANESE TERRITORY AND STOP FLITTING BACK AND FORTH TO

JERUSALEM. THERE IS A SERIOUS COORDINATION PROBLEM THAT
CANNOT BE SOLVED BY REMOTE CONTROL FROM GOVERNMENT HOUSE.
(D) MISSION. DOES UN AGREE WITH ARAFAT THAT UNIFIL'S
ROLE IS TO RELIEVE ISRAELIS, OR DOES IT THINK IT WILL
CONTROL PALESTINIANS? IF LATTER IS THE CASE, SOMETHING
SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT SPELLING OUT MANDATE MORE CLEARLY.
PARKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE WHITE HOUSE MULTIPLE
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